



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913
PH (517) 373.1707 | FAX (517) 373.3935
www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/toy/

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Contact: Heather Lombardini
(517) 373-1707

Sen. Laura Toy announces \$176,000 in training grants awarded to Livonia, Redford companies

LANSING – Workers of three manufacturing companies located in the 6th Senate District will benefit from grants totaling \$176,585 to fund job training programs at local community colleges, announced state Sen. Laura M. Toy, R-Livonia.

Henry Ford Community College will receive \$14,345 to help train workers of Piston Automotive, LLC of Redford Township, while Schoolcraft Community College will receive \$162,240 for workers of Alpha Stamping and TRW, both of Livonia. The grants were awarded under the Michigan Manufacturing Competitiveness Program.

“These grants allow Michigan companies to partner with our state’s excellent community colleges to help ensure that Michigan is home to the brightest and best workers in the country and the world,” said Sen. Toy, who serves as vice chair of the Senate Commerce Committee. “Michigan is home to some of the finest institutions of higher education and the most advanced manufacturing companies in the world. These grants leverage these strengths.”

Manufacturing Competitiveness Program funds are used to promote collaborative efforts that increase the competitiveness of numerous companies. Businesses that display a strong level of collaboration and cooperation, as well as new and innovative manufacturing techniques or processes, receive priority consideration.

The Manufacturing Competitiveness Program is a component of the broader Economic Development Job Training Program, which was designed to ensure that Michigan has the training resources to retain and attract smart businesses and workers.

“We are in a changing global economy,” Sen. Toy said. “Education is key to making sure that Michigan is home to the high-tech manufacturers and other companies of the future.”

Other qualification for companies to receive funds include that at least 75 percent of the funds are awarded to community colleges or a consortium of community colleges; that the business receiving training must match the grant by at least 30 percent; and that no more than 10 percent of the total grant may be used by recipients to cover administrative costs.

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